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BIG LINER AGROUND

Southampton, Apr. 14.
Seven tugs were tonight struggling to free the giant 85,000-ton Cunard liner Queen Elizabeth, which ran aground at the entrance to Southampton Water.
The liner has 3,000 passengers and crew on board and has just returned to Britain from New York. It is not expected that she will be refloated before the next high tide tomorrow morning.
Dense fog has been holding up shipping on its way to the dock at Southampton. The captain of an American ship declared that his vessel had been held up for six hours and at times "it was impossible to see the water."
A British liner from Hongkong was delayed by four hours and it was said that at times the fog got so thick that it was impossible to see the mast from the bridge.
On her last arrival at Southampton heavy seas caused the Queen Elizabeth to miss the tide and delay her several hours.—Reuter.

Reynolds On Way To Alaska

Tokyo, Apr. 15.
Milton Reynolds' round-the-world plane landed at Yokota airfield at 7.01 a.m. Japanese time today on its flight from Shanghai and hopped off again at 9.24 a.m. for Anchorage, Alaska.

The flight of approximately 1,100 miles from Shanghai to Yokota took four hours and 39 minutes.
The plane was 40 hours, 50 minutes out of New York and averaging about 300 miles an hour for the total distance, including stops.

When it crossed the Japan coast over the Itazuke airbase on Kyushu, it was clocked at 330 miles per hour.
United States Army Airforces ground crews at Yokota field west of Tokyo immediately started servicing the plane for its trip to Anchorage, Alaska.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

Army briefing officers prepared two alternate routes on the basis of War Department directives specifying distances by which American aircraft must avoid Russian territory such as the Kuriles and Kamchatka.
One route was mapped north to the 30th parallel, then along the great circle course at a distance of more than 300 miles from Kamchatka.

The other would skirt the Kuriles where a 12-mile limit is permissible.
The army weather officer at Haneeda airport near Tokyo was flying to Yokota to give Reynolds and his pilot, William Odom the latest reports.—Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

Not Very Friendly

IMPROVED Sino-British relations—a standard theme for platitudinous public orators—will scarcely be promoted by the incident at the Macao airfield on Sunday when a Far East Flying School training plane from Hongkong was fired upon and hit by a machine-gun post a few yards beyond the perimeter of the airport.
It is difficult to escape the conclusion that this was a wilful act of hostility. It was not the first time that a training aircraft from Kai Tak had flown to, and landed at Macao; and certainly not the first time Chinese troops on the vicinity had seen a plane bearing other than Chinese markings. Which must immediately dispose of any possible plea that the Chinese acted either in error or ignorance. It may be, of course, that the military outpost was so thoroughly bored with life that anything to relieve the monotony supplied a happy diversion (such as shooting at friendly aircraft); alternatively, the machine-gunners may have been so trigger-happy that they mistook a "Stinson Sentinel" flying machine for an enemy. On the face of it, however, the inclination is to view the incident as lending colour to China's recent "tough" attitude to

British aviation interests—firstly the protracted negotiations in Nanking for giving landing rights to British commercial planes operating over China; secondly, the bumptious and discourteous treatment of our Civil Aviation Ministry officials in Canton, where they were put on the same level as intruders, instead of envoys—an 1816 touch. The Macao affair, naturally, will be settled on the diplomatic level, but it is not out of place to recall that China helped to sanction the provisions of the 1944 Chicago Conference which established the International Civil Aviation Organization. This conference agreed, among other things, that "foreign aircraft not engaged in scheduled international air services may fly into or across its territory and make stops for non-commercial purposes without obtaining prior permission." China also agreed to the "Two Freedoms" convention which, inter alia, provides that the contracting States shall permit "flying across each other's territory without landing." The clarity of these two concessions calls for no additional comment, save to observe that they demand the most positive assurances from China that there will be no repetition of last Sunday's Macao airfield incident.

BLACK MARKET SCANDAL

Troops Play Havoc In Occupied Europe

London, Apr. 14.
The British Government today lifted the curtain on one of the greatest scandals of European occupation.

For the first time the hard-pressed British taxpayer was informed officially that the blackmarket antics and currency manipulations of his British fighting and occupation forces on the Continent in the past two years will cost him at least \$240,000,000.

How much the American taxpayer will have to pay for similar clandestine manoeuvres of the fighting and occupation GIs has so far been kept a tight-lipped secret, but American finance officers in Germany and elsewhere admit privately the total figure—when and if it is disclosed by the United States Treasury—will come as a shock.

Before the Treasury and War Departments imposed the present currency restrictions through the use of script in Germany and Austria, undisclosed millions of marks were converted into dollars and sent home in postal money orders.

The British figures contained in a report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the military appropriation covered only units which had to be "written off" because of illicit currency manipulations by British forces in the Netherlands, Germany and Austria.

ENORMOUS RETURNS

By dealing in pounds sterling at black market rates and "trading" goods with the civilian population, British forces in the Netherlands during 1945-46 made at least \$56,744,440, the report disclosed.
The same type of transactions by British forces in Germany and Austria during the same period cost the British Treasury \$91,000,000.
The report estimated an additional \$80,000,000 would have to be written off because of currency black-marketing by British forces in Germany and Austria during 1940-47 fiscal year.

Similar problems arose in France, Belgium and Norway but did not necessitate any write-offs on the 1940-47 account, the Comptroller said.
The French occupation forces have never disclosed how much the black-marketing of their troops would cost. Russian soldiers are forbidden to take any occupation marks from Germany and have no means of converting marks into roubles.—United Press.

APPOINTMENT CANCELLED

London, Apr. 14.
The Foreign Office announced tonight that the appointment of Mr Victor F. W. Cavendish Bentinck as Ambassador to Brazil has been cancelled.

Treaty For The Disarmament Of Germany Proposed

Moscow, Apr. 14.
The Big Four Foreign Ministers today completed their study of procedure and discussed the American proposal for a four-power treaty of disarmament and demilitarisation for Germany.

After General George Marshall (United States) had asked his colleagues whether they accepted the idea, he proposed that plenipotentiaries could be immediately appointed to consider the definite text. Mr Ernest Bevin (Britain) and M. Georges Bidault (France) gave their consent to the proposal. Mr Molotov did not directly express the Soviet view, but by putting forward a series of amendments and additions to the American draft appears to have implied that the Soviet delegation is ready in principle to consider a four-power treaty.

Calling upon the Council to pronounce itself whether or not they were in favour of such treaty and recalling that Mr James Byrnes presented the treaty draft in Paris a year ago, General Marshall said: "There has been ample time for reflection. The United States Government believes that the time has now come for the three other powers to decide whether or not they want his colleagues to involve themselves in considering the text."

"If they want the treaty I propose that we designate plenipotentiaries to negotiate promptly the final text." General Marshall said that the original proposal was made because the United States is determined to take an active part in keeping Germany disarmed. The United States recognises

that a study of the draft text and intervening events would make changes desirable. "I now suggest that the treaty might provide for a periodic review of its terms. In particular after the peace treaty with Germany become final the four-power treaty should be re-considered to add it to the provisions of the peace treaty."

General Marshall also proposed that any prohibitions contained in the four-power treaty be incorporated in the peace treaty so as to bind the German state and become the law of the land obliging individual Germans to obey and German courts to respect them.
M. Bidault welcomed both the idea of a four-power treaty and the American proposal for immediate

discussion of the definite text, which he accepted, on behalf of France. M. Bidault said that there were three reasons for welcoming a four-power treaty:

1. That it was right that a solemn act should be entered into for concrete expression of the special responsibilities and obligations of the great powers preventing a renewal of German aggression. Such treaty would not clash with or duplicate the peace treaty to be signed by the interested allies, who have been at war with Germany.
2. That despite difficulties revealed at the Moscow Conference, which still separated the great allies on short-term aspects of the German problem, the four-powers would re-confirm that whatever these difficulties might be, the allies were jointly resolved to maintain a common front and to preserve in future that unity of action, which had enabled them to win the war.
3. That such treaty symbolises America's willingness to take an active share in the maintenance of European peace and to accept precise and sweeping obligations for that purpose, which were without precedent in the history of the United States.

M. Bidault accepted the idea of making a detailed study of the text between now and the next meeting of the Foreign Ministers. He said that he wished, however, to make some remarks for the consideration of those appointed to make this study.

LIMITED U.S. TEXT

Firstly, that whereas the American text appeared to limit the conditions for disarmament to purely military field, the French delegation felt that it would be more simple and more effective to define the conditions by referring to appropriate clauses of the Act of Surrender and the Allied Control Council of the Council of Foreign Ministers and of the peace treaty when this was concluded. In this way, the four-power agreement would always be related to the situation in Germany.

(Continued on Page 4)

May Sow Crops From Air

London, Apr. 14.
The British Ministry of Agriculture is likely to approve plans for extensive crop sowing from the air because of the urgent need to repair the havoc caused in the recent serious floods throughout Great Britain. Ministry officials said today.
Government experts have examined the results of the recent airborne sowing by Mr T. W. Tomkins, a Northamptonshire farmer who sprayed fifty acres of ploughed land from a twin-engined aircraft.
"We are very interested in Tomkins' experiment," a Ministry spokesman said. "One of the main objections to crop sowing from the air is the cost, but in exceptional circumstances which have resulted from the recent severe flood, the urgency of getting land into production again, and the high cost of considering worthwhile." Tomkins' experiment was carried out because of the urgency of getting seed into the ground and the inability of agricultural machinery to operate in the flooded fields.—Reuter.

Flood Relief Fund Passes The First \$100,000 Mark

The British Flood Relief Fund, sponsored by the South China Morning Post and Hongkong Telegraph this morning passed its first \$100,000 mark with a number of generous donations.

The fund has now been open for 13 days, the average daily contributions amounting to just under \$8,000.
Further donations, addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Ltd., Wyndham Street, will be gratefully received and acknowledged in these columns.

The attention of readers is drawn today to a special article on Page 2 which graphically describes the grim effects the floods have had on Britain's farmlands and points up the urgent necessity of bringing quick and substantial relief to the ruined farmers and the despoiled countryside.

Below is the list of latest contributions to the British Flood Relief Fund.

Donations Received

Already acknowledged (per "H.K." Telegraph)	\$87,000.00
T. H. Lunson	100.00
A. B. Litvin (Pop) and his Naafi Band	100.00
Mr and Mrs F. C. Young	200.00
R. P. Newell	100.00
P. T.	50.00
Sacred Heart School	100.00
St. Francis School	50.00
Sir Henry and Lady Blackall	100.00
T. O. Wong & Co. Ltd.	200.00
Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd. Works Dept. 1st.	25.00
Installation	50.00
Mr and Mrs R. M. Wood	50.00
Messrs L. Dunbar & Co., Ltd.	500.00
Miss Lee	10.00
Mrs. Suen	10.00
Mr and Mrs R. Zindel	200.00
Messrs Caldwell, Macgregor & Co. Ltd.	1,000.00
Miss I. N. Watkins	30.00
Messrs Wilkinson & Grist	300.00
H. T. Earm	200.00
Knelt (Balance)	10.00
K. Wai (Memory Rd)	52.00
Robinson Rd 1st.	52.00
Installation	50.00
F. C. Mow Fung	100.00
Tang Shiu Kin	100.00
Holland China Trading Co., Ltd.	750.00
A. S. Watson & Co. Ltd.	1,500.00
Pang Shiu Kwong	25.00
"Klityre"	100.00
Anon	200.00
Mr and Mrs J. P. Rush	200.00
"Mac"	1,000.00
Gray Bros.	100.00
Head Watchmen, Assistant Head Watchmen and Watchmen of District Watch Force	157.00
Mr and Mrs Lo Min Nung	1,000.00
Harris Book Co.	50.00
Huen Import-Export Co.	100.00
Lee Furniture Co.	100.00
Per "Wah Kiu Yat Po"	50.00
Lee Hop Ming	\$50.00
Chan Mo Chor	10.00
(3rd. Instalment)	\$60.00
George Parks	30.00
Leung Yew	1,000.00
Wang Kee & Co.	1,000.00
Wing Wo Hing	1,000.00
David Sassoon & Co. Ltd.	500.00
World Light Factory	500.00
Lam Chi Fung	200.00
Mr and Mrs J. F. Macgregor	200.00
Members Treasury Staff.	175.00
	\$101,473.00

Donations should be addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Morning Post Building, Hongkong. Cheques should be made out to "British Flood Relief Fund." For the purpose of acknowledgment will donors kindly indicate their names in Block Letters.

STRONG 'QUAKE

Weston, Massachusetts, Apr. 14.
A "strong" earthquake was recorded at 7.28 a.m. GMT today at the Boston College seismograph station. Observers said that it originated about 6,000 miles from Boston but early directional indications were poor. They said that among the likely spots for the quake at that distance from Boston—based on past records of quakes—would be Persia, the Red Sea area, the Kamchatka region near the Siberian coast and Chile.—Reuter.

Home Budget Today

London, Apr. 14.
The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Hugh Dalton, presented Britain's 1947-48 budget to the Cabinet today, preparatory to submitting it to the House of Commons tomorrow.
The budget reportedly reduced Britain's tax rate of nine shillings in the pound to eight shillings and sixpence or eight shillings, but offset this with increases in indirect taxes.
Mr Dalton is expected to speak for between an hour and a half and two hours tomorrow in presenting the budget to the Commons. Mr Anthony Eden, deputy leader of the Opposition, will speak next. The budget debate will continue through Wednesday and Thursday.—United Press.

WALLACE STANDS PAT

Defies Critics In Washington

London, Apr. 14.
Mr Henry A. Wallace, in a defiant reply to Congressional critics who have challenged his right to criticise American foreign policy in a foreign nation, said today: "I shall go on speaking out for peace wherever men will listen to me until the end of my days."

In a statement issued here today, Mr Wallace said: "Those who propose to take action against me betray their present state of mind. Only if a state of war existed could I be accused of giving aid and comfort to an enemy. I recognise no enemy and know of no state of war."

Mr Wallace's statement was as follows: "I have no sentiment in Congress that the place for me to campaign against the proposed military loans to Greece and Turkey is not in Britain, but in my own country. My answer to this is straight forward. I did campaign against these proposed loans in the United States, and the British people, through the medium of the British press, knew my attitude very well before I came here. I have mentioned my attitude of opposition to loans for military purposes only incidentally in Britain. It is the American Congress that decides American policy, not the British public."

AMERICA'S CHOICE

"I have said that America, like all countries, can choose between two policies: one stands for a strong United Nations and leads to lasting peace; the other stands for a divided world and leads ultimately to war. I have said, and shall say, that some groups in America stand for the second world policy. I have said, and I shall say, that I stand for the use of American resources through the UN for the betterment of all. Only if a state of war existed could I be accused of giving aid and comfort to an enemy in expressing my point of view. If they were right, that in effect a state of war exists, then whether I spoke in Britain or America would be unimportant. I recognise no enemy and know of no state of war."

"As long as there is hope of peace, I shall go on fighting for peace. Those who propose to take action against me betray their own state of mind. In England I have seen firsthand the devastation and suffering caused by war, and to prevent that ruin and devastation from being wreaked again on the world I shall go on speaking out for peace until the end of my days."

Mr Wallace was the guest of a group of Labour Members of Parliament at a private dinner today. Tomorrow he plans to visit the House of Commons during the budget debate.—United Press.

BAKSI 5-4 FAVOURITE TO BEAT WOODCOCK TONIGHT

London, Apr. 14.
Joe Baksi and Bruce Woodcock will climb through the ropes before 10,500 fans at London's Harringay Arena on Tuesday night for their long-awaited ten-round heavy-weight fight—regarded by virtually everyone, except Baksi and Woodcock, as the final eliminator to decide Joe Louis' June opponent.

Bookmakers made, Baksi a 5-4 favourite 30 hours before the opening bout.
Promoter Jack Solomons said that Harringay had been sold out for nine weeks. The ticket prices ranged from one guinea to 20 guineas for 800 ringside seats.

The weigh-in is scheduled for 8 p.m. GMT on Tuesday. Baksi was expected to weigh around 211 pounds and Woodcock around 183, spotting the American 28 pound weight advantage.

Baksi planned to remain in his Brighton training camp on the English Channel until Tuesday morning arriving at Solomons' gym just off Piccadilly circus in time for the weigh-in.

Woodcock checked out of his stable loft gym this morning and entrained for London with his brother Billy and several Yorkshire friends. His former railroad gang workmates cheered him off from Doncaster station.
Nora, wife of newly-wed Bruce, decided to stay at home and listen to the broadcast of the fight with Bruce's mother.

Baksi's wife, 21-year-old Anne, also will listen to the BBC version from her west end hotel home. A boxing widow for four weeks, she has not been permitted to see or phone Baksi.

Both fighters reported themselves 100 per cent fit. Baksi knocked out four sparring partners in the final heavy workouts on Saturday. Woodcock, who has trained in secret

behind closed stable doors, was reported faster and sharper than ever before.
The referee will be the 62-year-old British veteran, Moss De Young. Nate Wolfson, who earlier objected to Baksi's appointment, agreed to him after a meeting with the British Boxing Board of Control where Charles Donmall, the chairman, assured Wolfson that the Board would assume full responsibility for a fair decision.

Nat Rogers, matchmaker for Mike Jacobs, said he will attempt to talk the winner into a meeting with Louis in June and he is prepared to offer \$150,000 as the challenger's share.
Colonel Edward P. F. Egan, chairman of the New York State Boxing Commission, was on hand to see that the "winner is a suitable opponent to meet the champion."

Solomons said a police cordon will surround Harringay in an attempt to spot holders of invalidated tickets which were stolen last month. The invalid tickets contained two photos, Baksi's and Woodcock's.

The new issue contained a third photo, Solomons.

Statements on the eve of the fight were:

Woodcock: "I feel fine. I'll do my best with both hands."
Baksi: "This fight means everything to me and I'm going to try to win as quickly as possible."
Tom Hurst, Woodcock's manager: "Bruce will win. Some of the job's comforters are due for a shock."
Wolfson: "Baksi—decisively."—United Press.

Stalin Adamant On Press Censorship

Moscow, Apr. 14.
Generalissimo Stalin today told the Republican candidate for the presidency, Mr Harold Stassen, during a one hour and 40 minutes conference that "it would be difficult in our country" to dispense with censorship. He indicated that the ban on outgoing news dispatches would remain in effect in Russia.

Stassen reported that Stalin told him that Russia and the West must find a way "of sitting together" and

press relations must be improved. However, he claimed that efforts to lift censorship in the past had failed and offered no hope that such a move would be tried again.

Stassen brought up the question of censorship with Stalin and Stalin countered with what he called evidence of bad faith by foreign correspondents. Stalin said: "It will be difficult in our country to dispense with censorship. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Molotov has tried to do it several times. He had to resume it each time." Stassen said he received Stalin's permission to issue a verbatim record of a portion of conversation

on April 9 in the Kremlin which dealt with the press. The transcript of notes was checked and agreed upon. Stassen said most of the mid-night Kremlin conference with Stalin concerned economic affairs. But he withheld the details of that discussion until he returns to the United States "because I want to be available for discussion when it is given out." He said, "We and discussed long range economic and cultural matters. We did not discuss anything about the current affairs between the governments. It would not have been proper or advisable for me to discuss such matters."—United Press.

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NEWS IN FINE FOCUS AS RAIN FELL IN ENGLAND

ONE MAN'S FLOOD...

HILLROW, near Ely, April 2.

HENRY THOMAS BURTON used to have a farm on the edge of the Fenland. Today he has a farm on the edge of a wind-whipped sheet of water that has swallowed up his neighbours' homes and robbed him of 80 of the 120 acres of land he has toiled at for a quarter of a century.

Tom cycled a mile along the Hillrow-St. Ives road to meet Police Constable Pegg and other men who were waiting with an Army assault boat. Tom, gaunter, collarless, took one of the six paddles, and for three hours was out on the flood making a reconnaissance of ruin.

They went to five homes. It was hard going, steering by the line of telegraph posts that marked the lost road, and then twisting away over the farmland which the Hillrow Fen men used to speak of with high pride.

This stretch of the Fens, Tom Burton reckons, was in a top state of cultivation, 25 percent better than when he first trudged across it as a boy. But today the richness is drowned. The water is five feet six inches above the land. They measured against the front door of Jack Burling's house on their water tour.

They prowled round three of the houses, noting things to tell the owners. Traces of rats, windows stuck through warping, a radio set hobbling about on the flood, and tables floating. There was a cat perched, wild and skinny, on a threshing-drum.

One of the party reached it and put it in a bag.

When they made landfall again, and undid the bag, the cat hurried off across the mud as though it had known the flood too long and was scared of the dry land.

At two of the houses they collected odds and ends. Tom Burton's brother-in-law, Arthur Thibon, balanced gingerly on a ladder and fetched out a trunk. In all, when the boat came in, they had one cat, one trunk, one tin box and five chairs.

Written off

THE trip had been "real rough," as Police Constable Pegg put it. The water was breaking over the sides at times. They were tired men, and Mr. Burton took it slowly as he cycled back to the farm.

Somewhere underneath his paddle when he was out on the water was the shed where he kept his gear: potato riddles, scythes, tractor spurs. A week last Sunday he wrote off the shed and its contents. He was standing at the gate which now marks the edge of the flood at the top of Hillrow hamlet. The water crept towards him, then he turned away because he could see that his shed was going down.

Somewhere underneath this glinting lake Tom Burton has three sets of harrows, two ploughs—one bought recently for £60, and never used—and a cherty plough.

And there are also 20 acres of wheat, for which the seed cost 50s. 2s a ton, and five acres of chicory at £60 an acre. There are 30 tons of mangolds for feeding his own stock.

Mr. Burton looked hard today, but he could not see any of his mangolds. And mangolds you can reckon at 30s. a ton.

REPORTED BY
JOHN REDFERN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY
WALTER BELLAMY

IT was going to be such a busy April. They should have been getting up the chicory for the factory at St. Ives.

Tom Burton's team for the activities of the spring was small but good. His right-hand man was his son Leonard, who is married, with a seven-year-old son Geoffrey. His assistant was Stanley Hostler, aged 22—"and a good boy, too." Recently Tom Burton fixed him up with five acres to give him a start. Those five acres are under the damnable, gliding waters with the rest.

Then he had the help of his pretty, dark-haired daughter Joan, who works at home in the morning and helps a Fenland dairyman with his books in the afternoon.

Joan loves the Fenland—or did—and is a member of the Young Farmers' Club at Haddenham. The young farmers think so much of her that she was sent on a special visit to France with a delegation last autumn.

Waiting ...

THE members of the Burton clan are now stuck, like runners on the start line whose shoes are caught just before the all-important leap that sets them on their way.

Now Stanley Hostler is cutting up trees that have been blown down. Leonard Burton is cleaning out the ditch on the farm near the farm. Farmer Tom Burton is riding to bed from the floods eager for the latest bit of news about his neighbours.

This is not the way Tom Burton planned to farm. He came to this farmhouse 25 years ago with a great will to work. He and his wife began in the village on £10 capital in a cottage with one room up and one down.

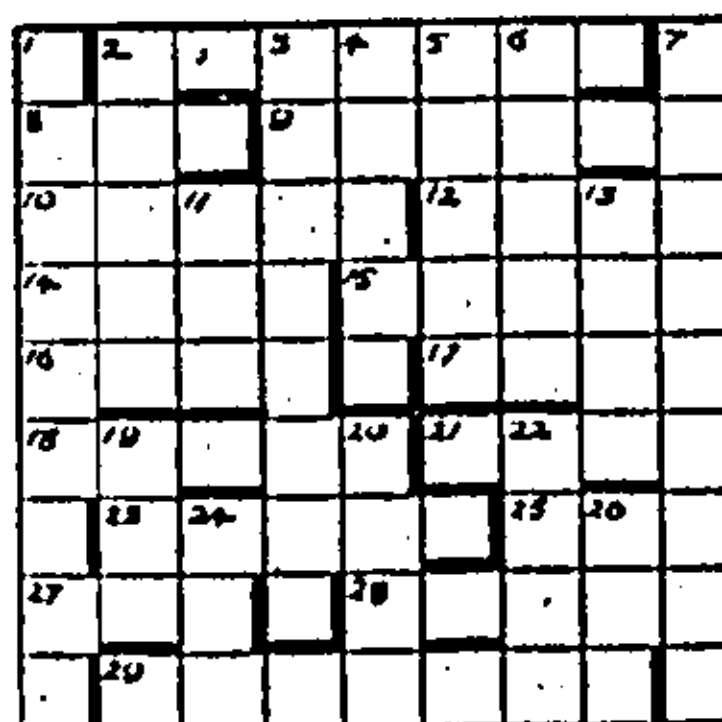
On top of that they had one cow and one pig. But they increased their hold on the land by successive grips. The farmhouse and paddock here cost them £250. They went in as tenants but inside five years had become owners.

Then, cautiously, they added slice after slice of rich land—£160. for one field, £550 for another. Their way of life was to get up at 5.30 in the morning and to keep going till 6 at night even in the winter.

They went to the cinema at Ely, nine miles away not more than once a year. Holidays were hard to come by—one spell at Clacton last year, the first break for six years.

Still, with the years things eased a bit, and Tom Burton joined the local bowling club. (Subscription £1 a year.) In 1940 he was valuable for market days and for short trips round the Fens.

CROSSWORD



21. Sounds like a man who can. (1)
22. Swallow. (5)
23. Convinced in patent medicine. (7)
24. The part of the public the B.B.C. wants. (3)
25. I leave the Big Four. (5)
26. Near it I made stillness. (7)
Down
1. Wrong mare (anag.). (9)
2. A broken truce. (5)
3. Should portray well covered ribs. (7)
4. What the trespasser may do with an egg? (5)
5. Returning to an honour you get her. (5)
6. Accosted. (3)
7. Unmanly. (4)
8. The title in those against the law. (7)
9. Tips in return. (4)
10. Where you can expect to find a nail broken. (4)
11. Taken from the burning bush. (3)
12. Anagram of 25. (3)
Across
2. Their scarcity slows down trade. (7)
3. A defensive organisation. (31)
4. Reason. (10)
5. It would take a peculiar graduate to dance this. (5)
6. Getting. (4)
7. A form of mere. (4)
8. South American country. (15)
9. Tailless. (4)
10. It takes more than a Russian to advance. (4)
11. A carpenter has them at his finger tips. (6)
Solutions of yesterday's puzzle.—Across: 1 and 6. Halfcock dancing; 7. Animal; 9. Conclusion; 12. Hint; 13. Solid; 14. Canal; 15. Laird; 16. Round; 18. Side; 20. Egg; 21. Swallow; 22. Swallow; 23. O.D.S.; 24. Water; 25. Down; 26. Bachelors; 2. Linguist; 3. Bachelors; 4. Omit; 5. Money; 6. Rev; 7. Naught; 8. Naught; 9. Counter; 11. Bonnets; 17. Urge; 18. D.S.O.; 20. Eat

BENEATH THIS DELUGE LIE IN RUIN THE LAND AND THE HOPES OF TOM BURTON

Now, the car is no use to him. The way to his land is blocked by the slapping waters.

This water is going to worry Tom Burton for years to come. He wonders whether there is any chance of growing anything on his submerged 80 acres for a year or perhaps two. Drowned earth is no good. If the land is not cleared by July he will sow mustard and plough it in to enrich the land. But that will mean no crops this season.

Like everyone else, Tom Burton plays for the floods to go. He wants to be at work again. At present his son and Stanley Hostler are filling in time.

Shaken men

THE Burton team has one advantage. The leader is cheerful. When he came back from his flood reconnaissance he was with men who were shaken by what they had seen of their trapped homes.

At the same time, Tom smiled. "If you know the worst, you know where you stand," he said.

Then he went down the road to give Police Constable Pegg a hand with the lighting of the lamps on the barrier which keeps the motorists from the Fenland enemy—the floods.



THIS POIGNANT PICTURE of Tom Burton disconsolate regarding his rich farm lands transformed into a bare sheet of water grimly illustrates the havoc which the English floods have wrought. Thousands like Tom Burton have been ruined. It is for the relief of these victims that men and women throughout the world are subscribing towards the Lord Mayor's Fund. Total donations made by the Hongkong public through the South China Morning Post up to 10 a.m. this morning were \$101,473.00. If you haven't already subscribed, GIVE GENEROUSLY NOW.

COMMUNISM'S WORLD DRIVE IS ON

By Dewitt Mackenzie

THE fear of another war is a very natural public reaction to the recent international events, but the world should not let that possibility—shocking as it is—to blind it to an actuality which is of an even more immediate importance and it is this:

The Moscow-directed world revolution for the spread of Communism, which was born with the establishment of the revolutionary Soviet government in 1917, is at last in full swing on a truly international basis. It is mobilised to the utmost strength Russia can muster pending her recovery from the ravages of the war.

Some people find it difficult to believe that anything so terrible could be a reality—especially in the United States. It does seem like a melodramatic fiction, but the world would be crazy not to recognise its fact.

When Stalin came to power—in 1924, he temporarily shelved most of the direct action aspects of the Soviet scheme—that is, the use of force—pending the development of Russia's industrial and military strength. He thought Communism should be putting the cart before the horse to try to overrun the world while Russia herself was weak.

Stalin's five-year plans did wonders in building up the Soviet Union's strength.

The world war which Hitler unleashed as soon as Moscow had signed a non-aggression pact with him created exactly the sort of chaos upon which Communism thrives so now we see the Red drive being pushed to the utmost advantage of that chaos.

Naturally, the United States, as the most powerful nation of our time and a capitalist one at that, is the main objective of the Communist drive.

America was given plenty of warning in the sensational testimony developed recently before the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities and in a report to the Congress by the Committee. The report declared that the Communist Party in the United States is part of the world-wide revolutionary movement taking orders direct from Moscow, and seeks to overthrow the American government.

The world is covered with events which are developments of the world revolution, some representing bloody violence and other political manoeuvres.

Typical of the latter class are the food demonstrations in the British occupation zone of Germany.

Some 100,000 people in the great Ruhr mining area have been making public protests over the quantity of food they are receiving and there was an ugly climax when the 4,000 miners refused to resume digging coal, which is the economic life and blood of Europe because of the economic crisis.

Authoritative sources say this Ruhr trouble had been inspired by the Reds, who exploit every situation which is a potential trouble-maker. Such Communist tactics serve a double purpose.

Public agitation creates public unrest and tends to break down the government, and if the food situation is overcome, the Communists will claim they forced the authorities to act.

This sort of thing is being carried on intensively by the Communists throughout Germany as they manoeuvre to gain control of the entire country. Such operations represent the indirect action which is used as a softening-up process before direct action is applied.

There are plenty of examples of direct action—the governments established by force and the liquidation of the opposition.

The United States is now in the softening stage. The American governmental drive to clean the House of Communists is calculated to prevent the development of a direct action stage in the country.—Associated Press.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

WAGGLING PARVA.
Monday.

(By telephone 8.34 a.m.)
SO deep was the hush of expectation that the clock in Wagglings Parva market place, striking 8.30, was heard for miles around. There stood the great rocket. Already Mimie Sloppercorn had been helped in by the Mayor, wearing his chain of office and his dog-matcher's boots. Rinkia Bam, jabbering unintelligible Siamese words, had joined her. Then came Professor Gneiss, carrying charts and geological hammers in a pigskin reticule of vast proportions. 8.32. Dr. Sirabianus (Whom God Preserve) of Utrecht appeared with the crew, six sturdy fellows. The crew sets into the rocket. The Doctor, dressed in an atmosphere-proof suit of plastic serge, and wearing a small felt hat, slowly climbs into the great machine.

New era delayed

THE hush grows deeper. You can hear a lady spitting out apple-pips. Somewhere a dog barks. Then sudden cries of "Contact!" ring out. We all lean forward. 8.34. A new era is about to begin, fraught with who knows what for mankind. The sky is cloudless. Every second now we expect to hear a terrible sound as the monster breaks from its concrete moorings and cleaves its ruthless passage into the mysterious beyond. Not a muscle moves in all that agonised crowd of watchers. 8.35. We rub our eyes. No, Utopia is still there. The Doctor leans out, and taps the side with a felt-topped swivel-guard. Then silence, deep and impenetrable. The murmurs. "What's going on? What's happen-

ed?" The new era is more than a minute late.

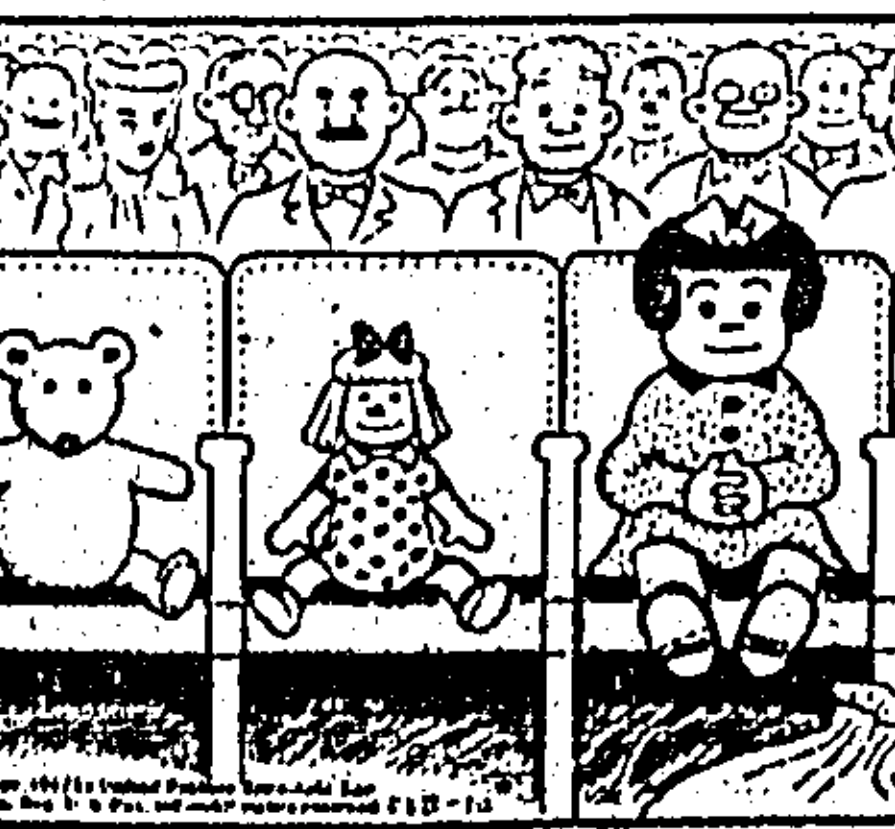
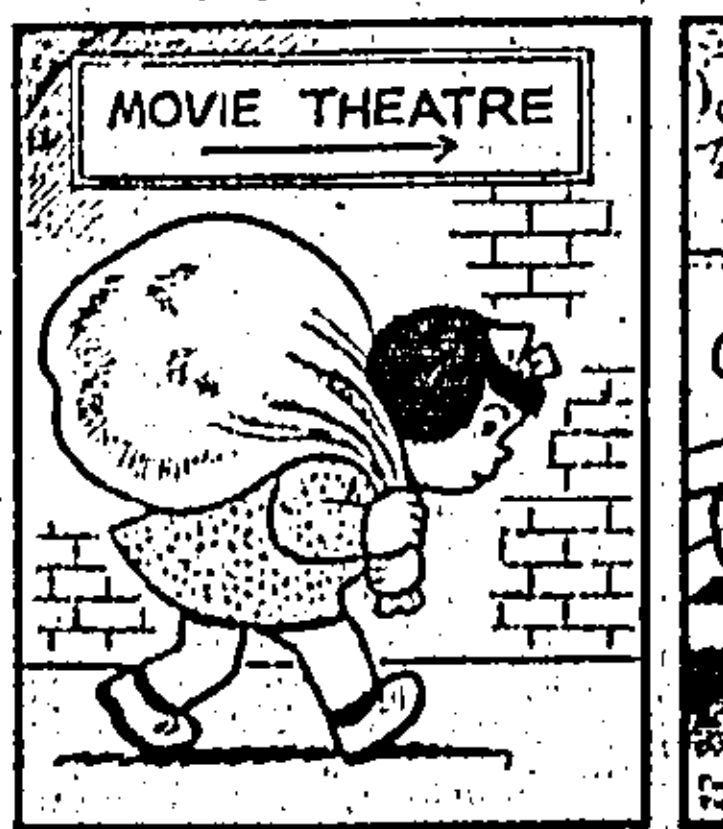
A slight hitch

8.39. UTOPIA is still there. The crowd is beginning to grow hysterical. The suspense has been too great a strain. The Doctor's head appears at a window. He is giving instructions. The crew dismounts. Swift as fire in an Eastern bazaar a rumour spreads. Something is wrong. Utopia will not budge. "A technical error," say the knowing ones. Presently the Doctor dismounts, goes to the rear of the rocket, and pushes; doubtless endeavouring to ascertain whether it is caught in anything. He scratches his little hat absentmindedly. Then he issues his statement. "There is a flaw somewhere," he says. "Probably one of the ratchet spans has become detached from its collar. A small matter which can be rectified in twelve hours. A slight postponement, that is all." The disappointed crowd disperses, while mechanics work on the land-bound monster.

Perhaps on Wednesday

MEANWHILE, the women will want to know what Mimie Sloppercorn was wearing. She was dressed in grey damask overalls, with starched leggings of rectified organdy, and a kind of diver's helmet with ear-holes and eye-pieces. Nothing very feminine, but all designed to suit the vagaries of stratospheric weather. Interviewed later, she said, "At first I thought we were moving so fast that we didn't seem to move. Then I noticed that we were still at the launching place. It has been a wonderful experience." "We should be ready for another attempt on Wednesday," said the Doctor.

NANCY Safety First



By Ernie Bushmiller

When You Feel Tired and Restless
take
Elliott's Nerve
and
Brain Tonic
On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Here are some suggestions to the Teeners.

"DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

Dear Lois Leeds—I am sixteen years old. Please suggest a gift for me to give my girl friend at her birthday party.—SUE.

Why not choose a little zippered purse kit, containing a comb, a brush and a miniature clothes brush. A Teen Ager of my acquaintance received one like this recently and she loves it!

"Dear Lois Leeds—Can dandruff be brushed out of the hair?"

—KELLY.

No, true dandruff is a disease of the scalp. The white flakes, which are often called dandruff, can't be "brushed out" either. Brushing cleans the scalp and hair because it stimulates circulation. Massaging the scalp is helpful, as are frequent shampoos.

"Dear Lois Leeds—Are Teeners wearing longer skirts now?"

—MOTHER.

Yes, a little longer now and much smarter they look, too. You may have to "sell" your Teen Ager daughter on the idea, but it's worth it!

Dear Lois Leeds—Would it be very bad taste for a sixteen-year-old girl to have her dark blonde hair bleached?—BIG SISTER.

I think that it would be a shame to start bleaching her hair at sixteen.

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE



Take just One Minute a day to keep your skin smooth and soft! Just spread a thick layer of vanishing cream over face and throat. Leave it on for One Minute, by the clock! Remove with tissues. The cream carries away all dry, complexion-dulling bits of scaly skin. Your face will feel softer. It will have a mat smoothness, to which your makeup will cling!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Tonight I wish you wouldn't repeat those stories about the good old days when the saloons served free lunch—do I go around reminding everybody how old we are?"

More Lourdes Pilgrims Expected This Year

By DOROTHY RUSSELL
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

PARIS—Some 100,000 Frenchmen, women and children are expected to make the traditional national pilgrimage to Lourdes next July.

In pre-war years, an average of 600,000 persons of all nationalities visited the Lourdes shrine annually. The pilgrimage to the miraculous grotto of St Bernadette, which continued throughout the war, last year attracted some 60,000 faithful despite extreme difficulties of transportation, feeding and housing.

NEWS FROM WALES

By J. C. Griffith Jones

Six members of the Russian Supreme Soviet delegation on a special visit to Britain spent two days in South Wales. The party, which included the Prime Minister of Latvia and the President of the Soviet of Nationalities, went down a coal-mine in Glamorgan—the Penallta colliery, Ystrad Mynach, one of the most up-to-date pits in Britain.

The Russians talked through interpreters to Welsh miners at the coal-face and in the colliery canteen. At the special lunch given in honour of the visitors M. Vasily Kuznetsov, leader of the Party said: "We and the British miners are old friends. The friendship was consolidated during the war and it must grow."

The Russians were welcomed by the Lord Mayor and 600 people at a civic reception at Cardiff City Hall. They enjoyed Welsh harp music and choral singing so much that they were loath to leave and nearly missed their midnight train back to London.

Modernising Industry

Although the £50,000,000 scheme for modernising the steel sheet and tinplate industry in South Wales still awaits the final approval of the National Steel Board, preparations are being made to launch it.

The biggest part of this development, which will make Wales the largest steel and tinplate manufacturing centre in the world, will take place at Port Talbot. Here on an extensive site on the Margam sand dunes the strip mill, equipped with the most modern machinery, will be erected. Complementary cold reduction plants will be located at Llanelli, Swansea, and probably Newport.

It will take five years to complete preparations. Thousands of workers will be needed for the constructional effort and thousands more will be regularly employed when the giant works are ready to operate. The Port Talbot borough council is already planning a new town to absorb the workers who will be engaged in the new enterprise. Three sites, each of 300 acres, have been scheduled for housing developments.

National Theatre

For many years Welshmen have felt the need for a Welsh National Theatre. The problem always has been that Wales is a mountainous country beset by travelling problems, and has no town accessible to both north and south where a truly National Theatre could be established.

Of late the idea has grown that the only effective method of creating a national drama movement is to build up groups of actors who will travel the country to give performances under the direction of professional producers. One such group comprising selected actors from both North and South Wales, has now been formed by the National Council of Social Service.

Next summer the company will perform Welsh plays in a number of towns and villages in North Wales. At the end of the tour the actors will give three special performances to Welsh communities in London. Next year the movement may be extended and promises to become the training school for a professional Welsh National Drama Company.

Vicar As Ferryman

The historic town of Monmouth faced a new siege recently. For a week 800 people were marooned in their homes owing to floods. Five streets in the centre of the town were under water, five to six feet in depth, when the rivers Monnow and Wye overflowed the district. Many families clambered out of their bedroom windows and were taken in boats to their relatives or friends in other parts of the town. The Shire Hall was turned into an emergency hostel.

People who remained in the flooded areas had their milk and food hoisted up to their bedrooms in baskets. The Town Council provided a ferry service in the main streets. One of the volunteer boatmen was the Vicar of Monmouth, who ferried a postman on his rounds in a rubber dinghy.

Miners' Miss-Football

Welsh League soccer football has been hard hit by the Government ban on mid-week games. Most of the players, who are amateur, and include a large number of miners who are morning shift workers and therefore free in the afternoons and evenings. They feel they are being done out of their sport. Public attendances at mid-week Welsh League games made little or no difference to industrial output anyway—a "gate" of 2,000 was exceptional. But the clubs will miss even this limited gate money. So many Saturday matches have been

Father Ives Gilbert Losten, secretary of the Notre Dame Salvation Association and organiser of the pilgrimage, estimates that nearly twice that number will attend the pilgrimage, which takes place from July 21 to 27 this year.

Among the tasks involved in organising the pilgrimage months ahead are planning special trains, arranging for special food allocations for the town during pilgrimage week and lining up hotel accommodation. The pilgrims must take their own food tickets with them, but, even so, the Food Ministry has to arrange for special food supplies to feed the influx of visitors.

Hotel accommodation is less difficult. Lourdes has in more than 400 hotels and boarding houses than the average small French provincial town. Even so, the pilgrims usually have to double up two and three to a room.

"Miraculous" Cures

The usual number of sick persons will accompany the pilgrimage in the hopes of achieving miraculous cures, but they are limited to 1,200 to each pilgrimage, as the hospitals in the little town cannot accommodate more. The sick are chosen from among the very poor and the cost of their trip to Lourdes is paid by the Notre Dame Salvation Association. Special "yellow" and "white" trains are organised for them.

Before leaving for Lourdes, the sick are subject to a careful medical examination. They undergo another while there and a third after the ceremonies. That is to ensure that any claimed cures are really genuine.

"The doctors are very strict," Father Losten said. "Nerve ailments that disappear do not count, because it might be claimed that they were cured by auto-suggestion or faith."

Last year 12 "miraculous" cures were confirmed.

HANDY WIRE RECORDING DEVICE

A new method of recording speech or music, developed by a firm of electronic engineers in Britain, will be revealed at the British Industries Fair which is to be held from May 5 to 16 at London and Birmingham.

The medium employed is a steel wire, four thousandths-of-an-inch in diameter. A two-hour programme occupies a spool four inches in diameter and weighing eight ounces.

Recordings do not deteriorate with repeated playing, but nevertheless any recording may be erased when no longer needed, and a fresh recording made. Reliable, robust and simple in action, with no recording stylus or phasing needle, recordings may be made in the absence of the owner. In this way, for example, radio programmes that would otherwise be missed can be recorded and stored for future enjoyment.

Entire operas, symphonies, or other favourite programmes can be transcribed from normal recordings into continuous playing, and the addition of a microphone for "live" recordings offers unlimited possibilities for parties, sub-standard film commentaries and many other applications.

TOUGHER NYLON STOCKINGS

Attention, office girls who find desks, chairs and waste baskets hazardous to nylon stockings.

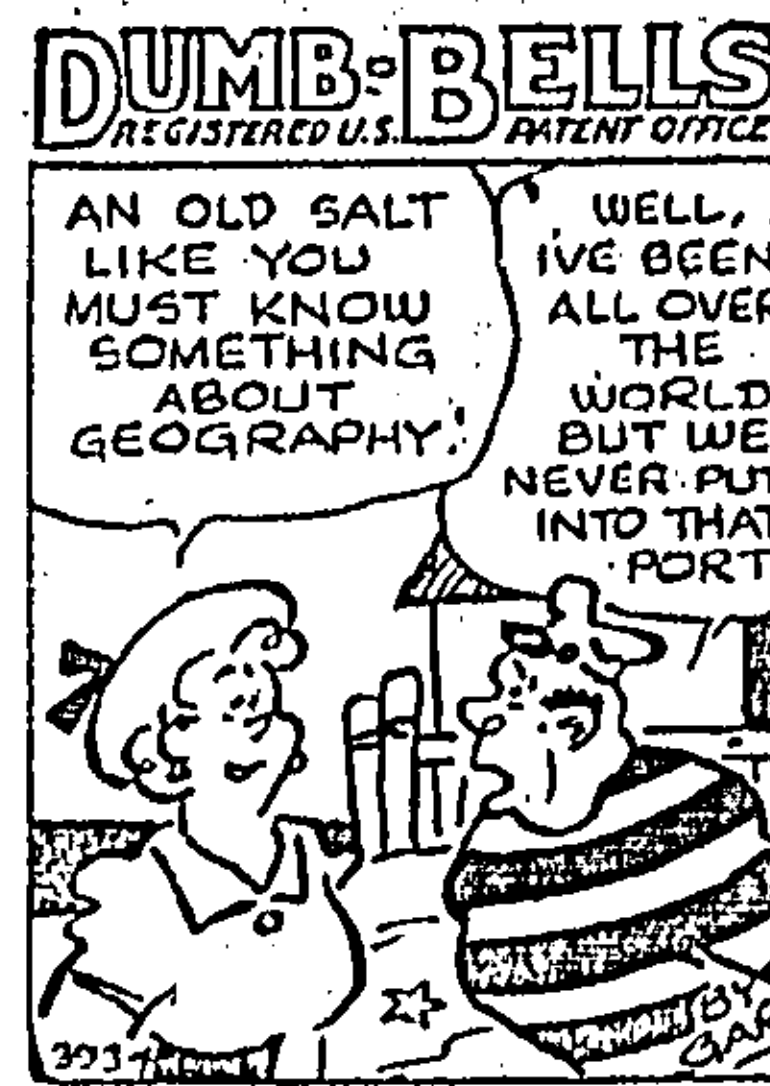
The Sun Oil Co. of Philadelphia, reports that sheerer and more durable stockings are being produced through the use of new nylon processing oils it has developed.

Stockings produced from these pliable threads are smoother and less inclined to break when the wearer brushes against a rough object.

snowed or frozen out this winter that several clubs are already in debt and may not be able to carry on next season.

Welsh MP's are being asked to press the Government to remove the ban on mid-week games where it can be proved that industry will not suffer.

What this severe winter has done to sport is vividly illustrated by the experience of the Llandudno soccer club. Seven times they had their Senior Welsh Cup match Gwyn (Port Talbot) postponed. On the eighth occasion they travelled to South Wales and got within five miles of their opponents' ground before snow and fog blocked their way. After all that, they have had to withdraw from the competition.



AMBITIOUS ROYAL AIR FORCE SHOW

On Monday, April 28, the Royal Air Force will invade the stronghold of the theatre to bring to the British public an entertainment different from anything seen before.

With a cast of 300 performers and 20 spectacular scenes, they will see and hear at the Opera House, Blackpool, the moving story of the history of the RAF with all its drama, its humour, and its romance.

The object of this presentation is to stimulate recruiting, and the RAF has entered into a contract with Ralph Reader, who has offered his services to devise and produce this spectacle. The script is being written by the celebrated poet-author, John Pudney, and the elaborate scenes are being designed by Charles Reading.

This ambitious show will afterwards tour the country, and principal cities in England and Scotland will have an opportunity of witnessing a completely novel form of entertainment.

The cast is practically complete. It will contain some names already famous in the world of the theatre. The majority of the civilian actors will be cast through the medium of the Reunion Theatre, the official rehabilitation organisation of the theatre, some of whom are ex-RAF. The remainder of the cast will be drawn from a new unit of the RAF called the Theatre Regiment Unit, with a strength of 150 airmen and 70 WAAF.

ARMY HELPS TO RECOVER TREASURE

A treasure hunt sequel to the Japanese invasion of Malaya in 1942 has just been successfully concluded.

When the Japs were approaching, Brigadier Robert Moir, Commander of the Federated Malay States Volunteer Forces, put his valuables and his wife's jewels into a cash box and buried them under the hedge near headquarters at Tanjong, two miles outside Singapore and now the Headquarters of Southeast Asia Land Forces.

When he was captured, Brigadier Moir took with him a hidden sketch map showing where the treasure was buried. He was held for a while at Changi, and while there smuggled the map in a match-box to his wife who was imprisoned in Changi gaol. Brigadier Moir was removed to Formosa and then Manchuria, and was flown home when he was released.

Mrs Moir was liberated in Malaya and set off with some police officers to search for the jewels, but without any luck. Several other treasure hunters were unsuccessful. Brigadier Moir decided to ask the Army to help.

Sapper John Leary, of the 54th Field Company, R. E. of the 2nd Division—the famous Cross Keys Division—got to work with a mine detector. His first "ping" resulted in a metal pipe being uncovered; the second produced rusty nails. The third was successful, and diggers fetched up a rusty cash box with Mrs Moir's jewels, her husband's medals, a gold cigarette case and other valuables.

Rupert & the New Pal—29



George, the tortoise, hesitates when he sees what Rupert has brought, but after a while he climbs slowly into the trolley. "We had better aim for the high ground," says the little bear. "The party sets off towards the common with Rupert carefully leading the way, while Bill and the black cat bring up the rear. They don't go quickly, but George gets very excited. "This is wonderful," he chuckles. "I've never travelled as fast as this!" ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

SPECIAL TIME
2.30, 5.00, 7.20
AND 9.30 P.M.

KINGS

MR AND MRS. MINIVER
TOGETHER AGAIN.

Greer Garson
Walter Pidgeon
in the fascinating love story of
Madame Curie

Directed by MERVYN LEROY
Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN
M-G-M HIT

with
HENRY TRAVIS • ALBERT BASSERMAN
ROBERT WALKER • C. AUBREY SMITH
DAME MAY WHITTY • VICTOR FRANKEN
ELSA BASSERMAN • REGINALD OWEN
VAN JOHNSON • MARGARET O'BRIEN

Screen Play by
Paul Osborn and Paul H. Ransome
Based on the Book "Madame Curie"
by Eve Curie



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W. HARRING & CO., ALEXANDRIA BLDG., GR. FL.
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Angela
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GEORGE SANDERS • LINDA DARNELL
in ANTON CHEROV'S

"Summer Storm"
ANNA LEE and HUBBARD LORI LAMBER
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NEXT CHANGE

HOWARD HUGHES Producing The Outlaw

Introducing
JANE RUSSELL
Jack BUETEL • Thomas MITCHELL • Walter HUSTON

RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

TO-DAY ONLY QUEEN'S

At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



OPENING TO-MORROW

LAUREL & HARDY GREAT GUNS

ADDED! MARCH OF TIME 'ATOMIC POWER'
SEE and hear great scientists as ENSTEIN and others who hold in their hands and brains the future of your world!

Needed Milk For Baby

A young woman in Houston, Texas, climbed into a taxicab and gave the driver an address. Before the cab started she swung a bottle against the caddy's head. The blow did not stun him and he took the bottle from the woman's hand and delivered her to the police. She told the police she planned to take only \$5 from the driver to

buy milk for her baby and get a clean dressing for her husband's infected hand. Her husband is a former Army medical corpsman, and an operation had taken all the family's money. The previous night they had slept in a bus station, and she had left her husband and the baby. In a movie theatre. She said he must not know what she had planned to do. When she finished, the cab driver gave her \$5 and refused to press the charges. The police collected another \$50 before setting her free.—United Press.

